

**00457**

**1979/02/00**



## BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH

CHINA  
DENG Xiaoping  
February 1979

NAME: Deng Xiaoping (Teng Hsiao-ping)  
(6772/1420/1627) (pronounced dung).

POSITION: Vice Chairman, Chinese Communist Party Central Committee (CCP/CC), since July 1977. Vice Chairman, Military Commission, CCP/CC, since July 1977. Chief of the General Staff Department, since July 1977. Vice Premier of the State Council, since July 1977. Chairman, Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, since March 1978.



(U)

1978

SIGNIFICANCE: One of China's most controversial figures, Deng appears to be the motivating force behind China's current policies on military development, science and technology, and education. Deng's influence extends through the national and into the regional levels of China's governmental structure through ties with military and civilian leaders.

POLITICS: It appears that the relationship between Deng and Chairman Hua Guofeng has stabilized, with Deng securing his position as the nation's leading policymaker. Deng has always had China's main interests at heart and, even though he may have enough power to remove Hua, must realize that instability in the highest levels of government could cause chaos throughout the nation. Although Hua's control over the government is probably growing stronger, he wields neither the power necessary to remove Deng nor would he wish to do so. Deng has become a symbol for the popular economic and military programs that are being utilized to mobilize the country to attain prescribed modernization goals. Hua had instituted many of these programs when he took over the government after the purge of the "Gang of Four" in October 1976. Apparently, both men agree on the general direction of China's economic and military development and, therefore, it seems likely that they are working in tandem. If Hua is willing to accept Deng as the nation's primary policymaker, and if Deng is willing to allow Hua the visibility that his role as the Chinese Communist Party Chairman requires, the situation may work to the advantage of both men and the nation. During his remaining time in government, the forceful Deng can provide the motivation that the country needs in order to achieve its initial modernization goals. At the same time, Hua will be given the chance

CHINA  
DENG Xiaoping  
February 1979

to learn from Deng, develop his own skills, consolidate his base of support, and provide the stability necessary for the country to achieve its long-range modernization goals.

Deng, as were many of the older prominent cadre, was sent to France in 1920 to receive higher education and to assist in post-war reconstruction. He then studied in the USSR, returning to China in 1926. In 1956, Deng returned to Moscow to attend the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU); in 1957, he accompanied Mao to Moscow where the Communist parties of the world negotiated the first of the Moscow Declarations on party unity. In 1960, Deng returned to the USSR for the 43rd Anniversary of the October Revolution and a November summit meeting of Sino-Soviet leaders. Although only the deputy head of the delegation, he presented his country's major speeches. Concurrently, Deng forcefully accused the Soviet Union of weakening the international Communist movement. In 1961, Deng led a delegation to North Korea. After the USSR backed down on the Cuban missile crisis and failed to support the PRC in the Sino-Indian border war in 1962, Deng, in 1963, went to Moscow to meet with Khrushchev. By this time, Deng had earned a reputation as a man able to stand up to and infuriate the Soviet leaders. His mission proved fruitless but he was accorded a hero's welcome back home. In 1974, he was the first high-level Chinese official to visit the US since the founding of the PRC, heading China's delegation to the UN General Assembly Special Session on World Resources. Deng visited France in May 1975. He traveled to Burma in January 1978, Nepal in February 1978, and North Korea in September 1978. Deng went to Japan for the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the China-Japan treaty of peace and friendship in October 1978. He visited Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore, and stopped briefly in Burma, in November of 1978. In January 1979, he journeyed to Washington, D.C. for a state visit following normalization of US-PRC relations on 1 January. Deng made an official visit to Japan in February 1979, enroute from Washington to Beijing.

PERSONAL DATA: Deng was born in Sichuan Province in August 1904. He is married to Zhuo Lin. Some reports state that he has three daughters, while others refer to two sons. Graduate of a middle school in Sichuan Province, Deng also studied under the Work-Study Program in France and at the Sun Yat-sen University in Moscow. He is believed to

CHINA  
DENG Xiaoping  
February 1979

—  
—  
speak French and possibly some English. Deng has always been an energetic and active leader with an abrasive, arrogant personality. He appears to possess a strong memory, a keen mind, and a quick grasp of problems. He is known for his organizational and administrative ability.

CAREER:

- 1920-1926 - Studied in France and the USSR.
- 1926-1929 - Deputy Director, Political Department, Shaanxi Military Academy; sent to Jiangxi to engage in underground Communist activities; organized peasants of Jiangxi to form the 7th Red Army, with Deng as political commissar.
- 1929-1933 - 7th and 8th Red Armies merged and went to Jiangxi, Soviet Area; Chief of Staff, General Headquarters, 3d Red Army Corps (Commander: Peng Dehuai). Secretary, CCP Ruijin County Committee in Jiangxi. Chief, Propaganda Section, General Political Department, Red Army, and editor of Red Star. Dismissed from these posts and labeled "rightist opportunist" in 1933.
- 1934-1940 - Participated in Long March; Director, Political Department, 1st Army Corps; Deputy Political Commissar, 1st Army Corps; 1st Army Corps reorganized into 8th Route Army, designated Political Commissar, 129th Division (Commander: Liu Bocheng); Director, General Political Department, 8th Route Army.
- 1941-1949 - Political Commissar, Taihang Military Region; Member, 7th CCP/CC; concurrently Director, General Political Department, CCP Central Revolutionary Military Council; Political Commissar, Hebei-Shandong-Shanxi-Henan Military Region; Political Commissar, Central Plains Field Army, remained as Political Commissar when army renamed 2d Field Army (Commander: Liu Bocheng); Member, 1st Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference; concurrently Member, Central People's Government Council; People's Revolutionary Military Council; and Board of Directors, Sino-Soviet Friendship Association.

CHINA  
DENG Xiaoping  
February 1979

- 1950-1955 - Secretary, CCP Southwest Bureau; Political Commissar, Southwest Military Region; Chairman, Financial and Economic Committee, Southwest Military and Administrative Committee; Vice Chairman, Southwest Military and Administrative Committee; Member, State Planning Commission; Vice Chairman, Committee on Financial and Economic Affairs, Government Administration Council; Minister of Finance; Member and Secretary General, 7th CCP/CC; Vice Premier, State Council; Vice Chairman, National Defense Council; elected Member, Standing Committee, 2d Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference; Member, CCP Politburo.
- 1956-1960 - Member CCP delegation to 20th Congress of Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Moscow; elected Member, 8th CCP/CC; Member, Politburo; Member, Standing Committee; Secretary, Secretariat and Secretary General, CCP/CC; accompanied Mao to Moscow to celebrate October Revolution; deputy chief, party and government delegation to celebrate October Revolution in the USSR in 1960.
- 1961-1967 - Led delegation to participate in 4th Congress of North Korea Worker's Party; Member, Presidium, 3d Session, 2d National People's Congress; leader of delegation to USSR to conduct high-level party talks; Acting Premier during Zhou Enlai's out-of-country tours; reappointed Vice Premier, State Council; and Vice Chairman, National Defense Council; attacked during Cultural Revolution and dismissed from all posts around July 1967.
- 1973-1976 - Rehabilitated and returned to public service as Vice Premier of the State Council, April 1973; elected Member, 10th CCP/CC and promoted to Politburo in January 1974; Member, Military Commission, CCP/CC; headed PRC delegation to the UN General Assembly Special Session on World Resources; elected Vice Premier, State Council during 4th National People's Congress and appointed Chief of General Staff Department; head of delegation to France in May 1975. Attacked by radical elements and removed from all posts in April 1976.

CHINA  
DENG Xiaoping  
February 1979

1977 to Present - Rehabilitated and restored to posts as Vice Chairman of the CCP/CC, Vice Chairman of the Military Commission, Chief of the General Staff Department, and Vice Premier of the State Council in July 1977. Traveled to Burma in January 1978, and to Nepal in February 1978. Position of Vice Premier was reconfirmed at the 5th National People's Congress, held in March 1978. Elected Chairman, Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, March 1978. Led party and government delegation to North Korea in September 1978. Became highest state official to visit Japan, in October 1978. Visited Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and Burma in November 1978. Official visits to US and Japan, January-February 1979.

PREPARED BY: [REDACTED] DIA/DB-2B4